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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 19, and add new claim 20 follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for associating search results, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a first list of search results to a first user in response to a first query;

recording for each of the search results from the first list that is selected by the first user, storing a relationship between the first query and that search result in a query database;

receiving a second query from a second user, the second query being the same as or similar to the first query; and

providing to the second user an alternate list consisting of the search results that have been previously selected by at least one user in response to the first query and/or similar queries as indicated by the recording of the search results relationships for the first query that are selected stored in the query database.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

before the step of receiving the second query from the second user, providing the first list of search results to a plurality of other users in response to queries that are each the same as or similar to the first query; and

recording for each of the search results from the first list that is selected by one of the other users, storing a relationship between the first query and that search result in the query database,

wherein the alternate list contains only those search results from the first list that were selected by the first user and/or one of the other users.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the step of providing to the second user the alternate list includes the sub-steps of:

providing the first list of search results to the second user;

receiving a request from the second user to view the alternate list; and

providing the alternate list to the second user.

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4. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the storing step of ~~recording each of the search results from the first list that is selected~~ includes the sub-steps of:
- storing each selected search result in ~~[[a]]~~ the query database; and
  - for each stored searched result, storing an alternate results vector for each query for which the stored search result was selected, the alternate results vector including the query and a list of the search results that have been previously selected in response to that query.
5. (Currently Amended) A method for associating search results, said method comprising the steps of:
- providing original lists of search results to users in response to queries, each original list of search results being provided to one of the users in response to one of the queries;
  - recording for each of the search results from the original lists that is selected by each of the users in response to each of the queries, storing in a query database a relationship between the search result and the query in response to which that search result was selected;
  - receiving another query that is the same as or similar to one of the queries; and
  - providing an alternate list of search results that contains only those search results that have been previously selected by at least one of the users in response to the one query as indicated by the ~~recording of the search results from the original list~~ relationships that are ~~selected by the users in response to~~ stored in the query database for the one query.
6. (Original) The method as defined in claim 5, wherein the step of providing the alternate list of search results includes the sub-steps of:
- providing the original list of search results in response to the one query;
  - receiving a request to view the alternate list of search results; and
  - displaying the alternate list of search results.

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7. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 5, wherein the storing step of recording each of the search results from the original lists that is selected includes the sub-steps of:

storing each selected search result in ~~[[a]]~~ the query database; and

for each stored searched result, storing an alternate results vector for each of the queries in response to which the stored search result was selected, the alternate results vector including the query and a list of the search results that have been previously selected in response to that query.

8. (Original) The method as defined in claim 5, wherein the step of providing original lists of search results includes the sub-step of:

for each of the queries, searching a network using the query so as to produce one of the original lists of search results.

9. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium encoded with a program for associating search results, said program containing instructions for performing the steps of:

providing original lists of search results to users in response to queries, each original list of search results being provided to one of the users in response to one of the queries;

recording for each of the search results from the original lists that is selected by each of the users in response to each of the queries, storing in a query database a relationship between the search result and the query in response to which that search result was selected;

receiving another query that is the same as or similar to one of the queries; and

providing an alternate list of search results that contains only those search results that have been previously selected by at least one of the users in response to the one query as indicated by the recording of the search results from the original list relationships that are ~~selected by the users in response to~~ stored in the query database for the one query.

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10. (Original) The machine-readable medium as defined in claim 9, wherein the step of providing the alternate list of search results includes the sub-steps of:

providing the original list of search results in response to the one query;  
receiving a request to view the alternate list of search results; and  
displaying the alternate list of search results.

11. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium as defined in claim 9, wherein the ~~storing step of recording each of the search results from the original lists that is selected~~ includes the sub-steps of:

storing each selected search result in ~~[[a]]~~ the query database; and  
for each stored searched result, storing an alternate results vector for each of the queries in response to which the stored search result was selected, the alternate results vector including the query and a list of the search results that have been previously selected in response to that query.

12. (Original) The machine-readable medium as defined in claim 9, wherein the step of providing original lists of search results includes the sub-step of:

for each of the queries, searching a network using the query so as to produce one of the original lists of search results.

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13. (Currently Amended) A system for providing search results, said system comprising:  
a search engine for providing original lists of search results to users in response to queries, each original list of search results being provided to one of the users in response to one of the queries;

a query database for storing for each of the search results from the original lists that is selected by each of the users in response to each of the queries, a relationship between the search result and the query in response to which that search result was selected; and

a controller for providing an alternate list of search results in response to another query that is the same as or similar to one of the queries,

wherein the alternate list of search results consists of the search results that have been ~~stored in the query database as having been~~ previously selected by at least one of the users in response to the one query as indicated by the relationships for the one query that are stored in the query database.

14. (Original) The system as defined in claim 13, wherein the controller includes:  
means for providing the original list of search results in response to the one query;  
means for receiving a request to view the alternate list of search results; and  
means for displaying the alternate list of search results.

15. (Currently Amended) The system as defined in claim 13, wherein the query database stores each selected search result, and for each stored searched result, an alternate results vector for each of the queries in response to which the stored search result was selected, the alternate results vector including the query and a list of the search results that have been previously selected in response to that query.

16. (Original) The system as defined in claim 13, wherein for each of the queries, the search engine searches a network using the query so as to produce one of the original lists of search results.

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17. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein each of the search results in the first list of search results includes a hyperlink to an external resource.
18. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 17, wherein each of the search results in the first list of search results further includes a short abstract of the external resource.
19. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 17,  
wherein ~~[[in]]~~ the ~~recording~~ storing step includes ~~recording~~ storing a relationship between  
each of the hyperlinks from the first list that is selected by the first user and the first query, and  
the alternate list includes ~~all of~~ only the hyperlinks that have been previously selected by  
at least one user in response to the first query and/or similar queries.
20. (New) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein in the storing step, the relationships  
are stored by storing in the query database the selected search results, each with a list of the  
queries in response to which that search result has been selected.